

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed the Final Office Action dated May 27, 2010, and the comments by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (“Office”) have been considered. Applicant offers the following comments in response.

Status of the Claims

Claims 26-27 and 29-30 are pending and under consideration. Claims 1-16 were previously canceled, and claims 17-25, 28 and 31-36 are canceled by this amendment. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional and continuation applications drawn to any and all deleted subject matter. Amendments to claims 26-27 and 29-30 find support in the original claims and throughout the specification as filed. No new matter is added by this amendment. Applicant respectfully requests the Office to reconsider the claims in light of the following comments.

Claim Objections

The Office objected to claims 18-19 for improper claim identifiers.

Without acquiescing to the merits of the objection but to further prosecution, Applicant has canceled these claims, thereby rendering the objection moot. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional and continuation applications covering any and all deleted subject matter.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 17-19, 22-23, 28 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by Walker, Pirttila, WO 01/62801 (“2801”), or Nashlund.

Without acquiescing to the merits of the rejection but to further prosecution, Applicant has canceled these claims, thereby rendering the rejection moot. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional and continuation applications covering any and all deleted subject matter.

Claims 17-19, 22-23, 28 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by Solomon.

Without acquiescing to the merits of the rejection but to further prosecution, Applicant has canceled these claims, thereby rendering the rejection moot. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional and continuation applications covering any and all deleted subject matter.

Claims 17-19, 22-23, 28 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) for allegedly being anticipated by Huse.

Without acquiescing to the merits of the rejection but to further prosecution, Applicant has canceled these claims, thereby rendering the rejection moot. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional and continuation applications covering any and all deleted subject matter.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 17-25, 28 and 31-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for allegedly being obvious over Huse, in view of Walker and WO 01/62801 ("2801").

Without acquiescing to the merits of the rejection but to further prosecution, Applicant has canceled these claims, thereby rendering the rejection moot. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional and continuation applications covering any and all deleted subject matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office indicated claims 26-27 and 29-30 as allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant wishes to thank the Office for indicating these claims as allowable. In response, Applicant has amended claims 26-27 and 29-30 to read in the independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant believes

these are in allowable form and request a prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance for these claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant submits concurrently a Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Applicant also submits concurrently a request for a three-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and the accompanying fee. Please charge our Credit Card in the amount of \$1,920.00 covering the fees set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) and 1.17(a)(3). In the event that any additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent the abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are petitioned. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required in conjunction with this submission to Deposit Account No. 50-2228, under Order No. 026038.0385PTUS from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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